

Jan. 25, 2011

Dear Congressman/woman, Montana House of Representatives or Senate:

In this letter, I'm asking you to imagine yourself in my situation.

Truth is, no matter how safe and secure you feel at any given moment, you , too could experience an event so abrupt and drastic that it changes your life instantly and forever.

For me, it was a stroke at a fast-food joint in Missoula, in March of 2005. For Gabrielle Gifford, it was a bullet, fired by a madman, as you know.

My point is that what happened to me could happen to any of us. Suddenly, our worlds are shattered.

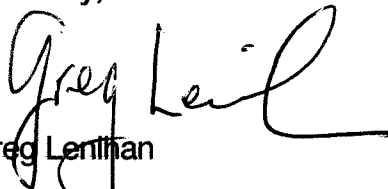
And because my stroke involved extreme behavioral and personality changes, I had to leave my home and separate from my wife and family.

Thank God I had Home and Community-based Services to help me find an assisted living apartment that I could afford.

This letter is an urgent appeal not to cut funding to social welfare programs like Home and Community-based Services which allow me and others like me to survive these difficult times.

For 30 years, I taught high school English at Hellgate High School in Missoula. Like you, I dedicated my life to public service, and all that I asking for now is to live a life of dignity. Please, I beseech you do not cut the social services that I and others like me need to do that.

Sincerely,



Greg Lentman

2075 Cooper St.  
Apt. 124  
Missoula, MT 59808